Serial No. 10/641,996
Atty. Doc. No. A34482PCT-USA(071308.0207)
        (1999P03046US01)

Amendments To The Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any canceled claims at a later date.

1. (twice amended) A method for asymmetrically transmitting data between an Internet server and a client over the Internet, comprising:

transmitting from a client a first connection request for setting up a first transmission channel via an Internet connection to an Internet Server;

transmitting to the client a first response to the first connection request by the Internet server, the first response establishing the first transmission channel and including connection data for subsequently establishing a second transmission channel via an Internet connection to the Internet Server;

transmitting information to the Internet server by the client for maintaining the first transmission channel, the information informing the Internet server that there is an intention to further transmit user data to the Internet server for avoiding cancellation of the first transmission channel by the Internet server;

transmitting from ~~a~~ the client a second connection request for setting up a second transmission channel via an Internet connection to the Internet Server using the connection data, wherein the first and second connection requests are successively transmitted~~;~~ and

transmitting to the client a second response to the second connection request by the Internet server, the second response establishing the second transmission channel, wherein

the client does not have an own IP address and is thus not visible on the internet,

the first transmission channel and the second transmission channel bidirectionally transmit and receive, independently of one another in terms of timing, data between the client and the Internet Server over the Internet,

the first transmission channel ~~being~~ is used ~~as~~ a back channel for transmitting user data from the Internet Server to the client, and

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the second transmission channel ~~being~~ is ~~used as~~ a forward channel for transmitting requests from the client to the Internet Server, ~~the first and second transmission channels provided as a distributed DCOM object, and the Internet server being a DCOM server.~~

2. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein dummy data are transmitted in the absence of user data in order to maintain the transmission channels.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~4~~ 1, wherein data for operating and monitoring an automation system is provided over the Internet, the first transmission channel used for transmitting status data of the automation system to the client, and the second transmission channel used for transmitting requests from the client to the automation system.

5. (previously canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (previously canceled)

11. (new) The method according to claim 4, wherein the client is an operator control and monitoring system which initiates the transmission channels as a DCOM object, and the setup of the connection to the automation system is made via a DCOM server.

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12. (new) A system for asymmetrically transmitting data between an Internet server and a client over the Internet, the system comprising:

an Internet server; and

a client not having an own IP address and thus not being visible on the internet, wherein

the client is configured to transmit a first connection request for setting up a first transmission channel via an Internet connection to the Internet Server,

the Internet server is configured to transmit to the client a first response to the first connection request, the first response establishing the first transmission channel and including connection data for subsequently establishing a second transmission channel via an Internet connection to the Internet Server,

the client is further configured to transmit information to the Internet server for maintaining the first transmission channel, the information informing the Internet server that there is an intention to further transmit user data to the Internet server for avoiding cancellation of the first transmission channel by the Internet server,

the client is further configured to transmit a second connection request for setting up a second transmission channel via an Internet connection to the Internet Server using the connection data,

the first and second connection requests are successively transmitted,

the server is further configured to transmit to the client a second response to the second connection request, the second response establishing the second transmission channel,

the first transmission channel and the second transmission channel are configured to bidirectionally transmit and receive, independently of one another in terms of timing, data between the client and the Internet Server over the Internet,

the first transmission channel is a back channel for transmitting user data from the Internet Server to the client, and

the second transmission channel is a forward channel for transmitting requests from the client to the Internet Server.

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13. (new) The device according to claim 12, wherein dummy data are transmitted for maintaining the first and/or second transmission channel in the absence of user data.

14. (new) The device according to claim 12, wherein data for operating and monitoring an automation system is provided over the Internet, the first transmission channel used for transmitting status data of the automation system to the client, and the second transmission channel used for transmitting requests from the client to the automation system.

15. (new) The device according to claim 12, wherein the client is an operator control and monitoring system which initiates the transmission channels as a DCOM object, and the setup of the connection to the automation system is made via a DCOM server.

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